respectives beneficiary States, and

(v) accelerate the evolutionary process of formation of the regional girds and ultimately the national power grid.

(c) The Central Electricity Authority is a statutory orgainsation constituted under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948. The main functions of the Authority are;

(i) to formulate short-term and perspective plans for Power-Development.

(ii) to collect data concerning generation, distribution and utilisations of power, study of cost efficiency losses, benefits, publication of reports and investigations;

(iii) to advise the State Governments, Electricity Boards, generation companies, or any other agency engaged in the generation or supply of electricity on such matters as would improve the operation and maintenance of their system in an effiencit and coordinated mammer;

(iv) to promote and assist in the timely completion of projects sanctioned in the power sector and to constantly monitor their implementation;

(v) to make arrangements for advancing the skills of persons in the generation and distributions of electricity;

(vi) to promote research in matters affecting the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity;

(vii) to advise the Central Government or any matter on which its advice is sought or to made recommendations which would help in improving the generation, distribution and utilisations of eletricity.

[*Translation*]

Agreement with Ne pal on Irrigation projects

7107. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been approved recently for implementing in Koshinadi, Birpur and Bhimpur adjoining areas with Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details of the irrigation projects on which an agreement has been signed with Nepal?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). No agreement has been recently reached with Nepal for implementing irrigation projects in Birpur and Bhimnager areas.

[*English*]

Bauxite in Visakhapatanam Area, Andhra Pradesh

7108. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bauxite mineral ore of very superior quality is found in abundance in the Visakhapatnam and Vizianagar district and other areas in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the experts of the Metallurgical Engineering Consultants India Ltd. (MECON) has suggested for locating the alumina plant at Krishnadevi Peta; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Metallurgical grade bauxite deposits of the order of 455.84 million tonnes have been located (as on 1.1. 1985) in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Out of these, 420 62 million tonnes bauxite deposits have been located in Visakhapatnam District.

(b) and (c). In the feasibility report prepared under the Indo-Soviet Co-operation, MECON has suggested Krishnadeva Peta as a suitable site for an Alumina Plant. In view of the subsequent lack of interest by the erstwhile Soviet Union, it has been decided to drop the project. In the changed situation some public and private sector companies have evinced interest in setting up 100% EOU Alumina Plants based on Andhra Pradesh Bauxite Deposits.

Illegal Telephone Connections

7109. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that several groups are operating in the country who arrange for telephone connections illegally;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of persons apprehended and action taken against them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS(SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). No. Sir. No specific case or instance has come to the notice of this Department. Further the rules for provision, transfer shift etc. of telephone connections are clearly laid down. At the time of release of new connections, advertisements are also given in leading newspapers for information of the public and they are advised to meet a concerned officer of the Department in case of difficulty or delay in the provision of connection (s).

Domestic Telephone Calls

7110. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of domestic telephone calls coming to the Department of Telecommunications and the cost charged by the department from the consumers; and

(b) the basis of fixing this cost?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The cost per telephone call comes to Re. 0.90 approximately. The Department charges at the rate of Re. 0.80 per call up to 1000 calls beyond 150 free calls and and Rs.1.10 per call in excess of 1000 calls in a bi-monthly period.

(b) The cost (tariff) of a call is fixed keeping in view, inter-alia, the expenditure in operations, transmission and maintenance of the service.

Telecom Advisory committee

7111. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone advisory committees have been set up in all the States/Union Territories;